Nippon Times

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U.S. 9TH ARMY SMASHED IN RHINE CROSSING MOVE

Only Fraction of Enemy Escape—Most of Vanguard Killed, Captured Near Duisburg

Domei

BERLIN, March 15.—An attempt made by units of the 9th American army to cross the Rhine north of Duisburg has been smashed, it was just announced here. The American shocktroops which apparently were the vanguards of stronger American units, immediately after reaching the eastern bank of the river were engaged by the German troops in hand-to-hand fighting. It is known that only a fraction of the American troops was able to get back to the western bank as many were killed and others taken prisoner by the Germans. Several of the prisoners stated that they did not expect such strong German resistance.

Allies Meet Heavy Resistance

Except for the bridgehead of Remagen where five American divisions attempted to gain territory on all sides, the Rhine front between Emmerich and Cologne remained practically quiet during the last 24 hours. The American pressure on the Moselle front increased, leading to the establishment of several small bridgeheads on the lower reaches of the river. Also in the Ruhr and the Saar, fighting increased in intensity as the American attempted to break through toward the east with newly-employed forces.

The American bridgehead on the eastern bank of the Rhine between Honnef and Hoenningen is now 17 kilometers wide and eight kilometers deep. In this comparatively small area are concentrated five American divisions now united in one special army group. The pressure aiming at the expansion of the bridgehead is particularly strong in the northernmost and southernmost tips of the bridgehead. The strongest attack was launched in the area northwest of Honnef where the Americans, against the stiffening German resistance, despite strong artillery and air force support were able to advance only by the yardstick. The units of the 1st American army attacking in the southerly direction from the Hoenningen area forced a local penetration which, however, was sealed off by immediate German countermeasures.

General Hodges' troops during the past 24 hours were able to advance toward their objective—the Cologne-Wiesbaden automobile highway—only step by step. A new focal point is forming itself now on the lower reaches of the Moselle. Lieutenant General Patton there launched an attack all along the meandering Moselle river. About midway between Cochem and Coblenz the 3rd American army forced four small bridgeheads, namely, at Alken, Rodenbach, Hatzenport and Mueden. While crossing the river the Americans suffered heavy losses. Now their units on the eastern bank of the river are exposed to fierce German counterattacks. Especially heavy fighting is raging south of Cochem at Uerzig and at Berncastel.

Also on the Ruhr and Saar rivers the Americans have brought up fresh reinforcements and are trying several places for a breakthrough toward the east. At some places the Americans, belonging to the 3rd and 7th American armies, were able to advance slightly, but nowhere did they succeed in forcing a breakthrough. In northern Alsace the renewed attacks of the Americans on the Moder River failed to result in any essential change of the front line. The American units which had been able to penetrate the northern section of the town of Hagenau were again thrown out by the German counterattack.

Kaltenbrunner in Command

Domei

ZURICH, March 15.—The German troops defending the approaches to Berlin have been put under the command of Colonel General Ernest Kaltenbrunner, an Austrian, who is the former Minister of Public Security in Austria and the right-hand man to Heinrich Himmler, according to a Moscow dispatch.

Muslim Meeting Postponed

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, March 15.—The Secretary General of the All Indian Muslim League announced today that due to the illness of Mohammed Ali Jinnah, president of the league, the annual session of the league which was arranged to be held at Lahore toward the end of this month has been postponed and that the date when the session will be conducted will be announced later, according to a New Delhi report.

Poles File Protest For Being Excluded At 'Frisco Meeting

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, March 15.—The exile Polish Government in London has lodged a strong protest to the British, American and Chungking Governments against not being invited to the United Nations World Security Conference scheduled for San Francisco on April 25. The note delivered to the three Governments said: "The Polish Government as the sole, legal and independent representative of the Polish State emphatically insist on their indisputable right to take part in the World Security Conference and solemnly protests against their exclusion from the invitation to the San Francisco Conference." It will be recalled that it was decided to invite the Polish Provisional Government to attend the meeting as soon as such a Government had been formed.

MAIN E. FRONT FIGHTING IS LIMITED TO PRUSSIA

German Defenders Withstand Onslaughts by Numerically Superior Soviets

Domei

BERLIN, March 15.—The focal point of fighting on the Eastern Front at present is limited exclusively to East and West Prussia. In grim defensive fighting, the German defenders of East Prussia in the rear positions withstood the onslaught of numerically far superior Soviets. Also in the rear, on both sides of Danzig bight, the Soviets were unable to force a decision, although the German salient is being gradually narrowed inch by inch. All signs on this front indicate the calm before the storm breaks. Attacks against the German positions in Stettin and Dievenow were uncoordinated and without effect.

On the wide front between Eisenberg and the Koenigsberg fortress region, seven Soviet armies are surging against the German positions. At times, the Soviets, supported by numerous tanks, were able to penetrate the German forward lines, but the bolt positions immediately to the rear prevented any breakthrough. Repeatedly the Germans launched counterattacks, driving the Soviets back to their initial positions. Eighty-eight Soviet tanks were destroyed in this battle area.

The major battles on both sides of Danzig bight climaxed in the past 24 hours in the Quassendorf area where extremely strong Soviet tank forces tried to break through the German lines to reach the shores of Danzig bight. The German salient around Gdynia and Danzig was narrowed down, but only for a couple of hundred meters. All breakthrough attempts were, however, frustrated.

Fighting along the Oder and Queiss front consisted in uncoordinated local attacks which were mostly warded off by the defensive fire before the attackers reached the German front lines. Three German fortresses in the east are being defended in grim street fighting against the concentric Soviet attacks. In Breslau, attacks from the north and south flared up again.

In Glogau, the German garrison continues to hold its positions. In Kolberg the defenders twice rejected the Soviet request to surrender. The Soviet attack on both sides of Schwarzwasser which aims at the opening of a gateway to the Maerisch-Ostrau industrial area also during the past 24 hours failed to make any headway. Here again the German panzers made powerful counterattacks, smashing the Soviet assault forces. Official German quarters characterized the fighting on Wednesday as full German defensive success.

Stalin Seeks Tangiers Port

Domei

BERLIN, March 14.—The information stating that the Tangier problem was discussed also in Yalta and that Premier Josef Stalin showed special interest in the solution of this problem is meeting with much interest in Berlin political quarters. The view is held in Berlin that Premier Stalin, after having secured by way of his Balkan policy certain key positions in the eastern Mediterranean, evidently is striving to control western Mediterranean. It said that the Soviets suggested a full internationalization of the harbor of Tangiers, and this, would require the appointment of a committee which would be specially suitable for securing the Soviet wishes and demands.

INTENSE EFFORT REQUIRED IN WAR AGAINST JAPAN

Churchill Says Scale Limited By Transport; Hopes for Early Victory Over Germany

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, March 15.—Prime Minister Winston Churchill held out hope today of victory over Germany this spring, pledged his dominant Conservative Party to the promotion of free enterprise in the postwar period, and served notice that he intended to guide Britain in the trials of peace in his 45-minute address before the 2,000 delegates at the Conservative Party conference, according to a London report.

"Victory lies before us, certain and perhaps near," Churchill told the Conservative Party conference. He said that the war in Europe might conclude "before the summer ends or even sooner," the report added.

His temper, obviously taut after the recent sharp exchanges with Left Wing critics in the House of Commons, the Prime Minister struck out at "our socialist friends" and their program "for nationalizing all the means of production, distribution and exchange," the report continued. Churchill asserted "that would imply not only the destruction of the whole of our existing system of society and life and labor, but the creation and enforcement of another system or systems borrowed from foreign lands and alien minds."

By contrast, Churchill declared that "at the head of our mainmast we fly the flag of free enterprise," the report further continued.

Touching on the European War, Churchill said, "Continuous and ever more rapid progress of the war against Germany leads us to hope that the war will end before the summer ends. Should the war in Europe end before the summer ends or even sooner, as it may well do, we shall have reached a considerable milestone in our journey and the war conditions will no longer prevent the holding of a general election," the report disclosed.

Churchill continued, with reference to the counteraction in East Asia, "We have to repay the injuries inflicted by the Japanese. That requires an intense effort. The scale of the war against Japan is limited not by manpower—that will readily be forthcoming—it is limited by shipping and other means of transport over vast ocean spaces and through steaming jungles," the report concluded.

BRITAIN'S RESOLVE VOICED

Determined to Join in War Against Japan, Grigg Tells Commons

Domei

STOCKHOLM, March 13.—Sir James Grigg, British Minister of War, reiterated Britain's determination to join in the war against Japan when reviewing the exploits of the British army in the House of Commons today, according to a London report. Grigg, who was submitting the army estimates, said, "I have heard it said that we in the United Kingdom will be entitled to sit back after the end of the European war and take less active part in the war against Japan. So long as present Japan exists we have no hope of securing the main object for which our fellow countrymen have fallen on the field of battle. Is it not patent, therefore, that the decision of the Government to pledge themselves and their resources to the Far Eastern campaign when the European war ends is not only right but also inescapable?" the same report revealed.

Lewis to Get Reply

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, March 15.—The nation's soft coal producers are expected to give today to John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, a reply to his wage contract demand, says a Washington dispatch. A spokesman for the operators said: "Lewis will not like it very much" adding that "Lewis may not even have a strike threat to back his request for the United Mine Workers". Meanwhile, there are rumors that the Government will take over the bituminous mines before the workers go to the polls on March 28 to vote for or against the walk-out. It will be recalled that the Smith-Connally Act does not provide for a strike vote to be taken in Government held facilities.

Reich Evacuates Refugees

Domei

BERLIN, March 14.—Since the Soviet invasion of the East and West Prussia, units of the German Navy and mercantile marine evacuated 59,000 refugees mostly women and children by sea. The evacuation was carried out under the most difficult conditions in view of the mining of the sea routes.

His Imperial Majesty Learns of Exploits Rendered by Endo, Nishio in Smashing B-29's

A citation granted to Navy Lieutenant Sachio Endo and Navy Superior Petty Officer Osamu Nishio, who rendered outstanding exploits in counterattacking B-29 bombers that raided the Japanese mainland, has been brought to the knowledge of His Majesty the Emperor, it was announced by the War Ministry on Friday.

The announcement follows:

"A citation has been previously granted to Navy Lieutenant Sachio Endo and Navy Superior Petty Officer Osamu Nishio, who rendered meritorious services in the intercepting operations against B-29 bombers that attacked the Japanese mainland and this matter has been brought to the knowledge of His Majesty the Emperor."

CITATION

Navy Lieutenant Sachio Endo
Navy Superior Petty Officer
Osamu Nishio

Piloted by Lieutenant Endo with scouting duties performed by Petty Officer Nishio, they shot down or damaged a total of nine B-29 bombers over Tokyo and Nagoya in counterattacking battles against the repeated raids staged by the Mariana based U.S. air force after November 24 last year thereby enhancing the morale of our Forces and striking terror into the enemy's heart.

On January 14 this year, when about 60 B-29's came attacking Nagoya and its vicinity they promptly contacted a formation of 11 raiders and in launching furious attacks damaged two hostile planes but they themselves hit by enemy bullets met a glorious end.

Lieutenant Endo also distinguished himself in shooting down or damaging five enemy planes on August 20 last year in a dog-fight with the China-based American air force coming from Chengtu that attacked northern Kyushu.

Always maintaining the highest fighting spirit and excelling in tactics, Lieutenant Endo and Petty Officer Nishio achieved tremendous war results but finally sacrificed their lives for the cause of the vital air defense duty of the Imperial land. Their military achievements are really great.

Wherefore a citation is hereby issued and proclaimed to the entire armed forces.

January 26, 1945
Prince Naruhiko Higashikuni
Commander-in-Chief of the Air
Defense Headquarters

U.S. SENATE GETS AIR PACT

Ratification of International Civil Aviation Treaty Urged by F.D.R.

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, March 13.—President Roosevelt sent to the Senate yesterday for ratification a treaty of international civil aviation drawn up at the recent International Aviation Conference held in Chicago, according to a Washington report.

Joseph Grew, Undersecretary of State, in his capacity as Secretary of State during Edward Stettinius' absence, said that the 39 nations which signed the convention recognized that the future development of international aviation can help greatly to create and preserve friendship and peace throughout the world. He said that the treaty will have to be ratified by 26 states.

Meantime, the inter-agreement signed by the 41 nations will function as a provisional organization. The vote of two-thirds of the United States Congress is required for the adoption of the convention treaty and the ratification of the aviation treaty will make the United States a member of the international civil aviation organization. The United States Government has already accepted the aviation convention's proposals which declares the mutual aid and exchange of rights of aircraft, and the carrying of passengers to and from their homeland to intermediate points.

F.D.R. SENDS NAVAL BUDGET

Asks $24 Billion Which Is Lower Than 1945 Appropriation

Domei

LISBON, March 13.—President Roosevelt submitted today the 1945-46 navy budget bill to Congress, totaling $24,000,000,000 for the year beginning July 1, which is a considerable decrease compared to the total appropriations of about $28,500,000,000 for 1945 and $23,000,000,000 for 1944, according to a Washington dispatch.

The reduction from the current appropriations is accounted for largely by a cut of about $2,000,000,000 in the previous estimates of the cost of the airplane program, and about $4,000,000,000 in cash required for the shipbuilding program, the dispatch said, adding that these reductions, however, are partially offset by increased requirements for advanced bases.

The new navy budget provides for a navy of approximately 3,389,000 men, a marine corps strength of 478,000 and 173,165 in the coast guard.

TO SEND LABOR ATTACHES

U.S. Representatives to Be Stationed In Italy and Germany

Miss Frances Perkins, United States Secretary of Labor, announced some time ago that the State Department was considering the dispatch of labor attaches to Italy and to Germany after occupation under an agreement with the Labor Department, according to a report in the Washington Post.

The labor attaches would be given a status like that accorded regular diplomatic officials. They would have nothing to do with labor organizations or movements.

Instead, they would give advice to the working-class people in the countries where they were working with the plan of assisting in the realization of an increase in the standard of life of the workers and raises in their wages. They would at the same time collect information about the conditions of labor in foreign countries for sending home as an aid to the solution of the labor problem in America.

ECONOMIC ACCORD URGED

Financial Cooperation Vital for World Peace, Says Acheson

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, March 11.—"International cooperation in the economic and financial sphere is just as important as cooperation in political and military matters," Dean Acheson, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State, declared on Thursday before the House Banking and Currency Committee which is now considering the monetary proposals of the Bretton Woods Conference, according to a Washington report.

"Many nations now devastated by war need help," Acheson said. "If they do not get help they will have to fight for survival with economic weapons. Such weapons are import quotas, use of a number of currencies in a single country, and restriction on foreign exchange. The net result of such measures is a shrinking international trade, lower levels of living, and hostilities between nations.

"The Bretton Woods proposals for an international bank and a monetary fund will make possible a world-wide expansion of production and trade. To construct a peace there must be an economic peace as well as a political and military peace."

PEACE PLANS CRITICIZED

Latin Americans Urge Change; U.S. Withholds Support

Domei

STOCKHOLM, March 9.—The United States does not wish to be held responsible for the Latin-American criticism expressed at the Inter-American Conference with regard to the plans drafted at Dumbarton Oaks, reports the New York correspondent of the Stockholms Tidningen.

The World Organization Committee of the Inter-American Conference agreed on the matter of submitting at the San Francisco Conference seven proposals aimed at altering the Dumbarton Oaks decisions. The spokesman of the United States foreign secretariate, however, declared quite clearly, that the United States was not willing to make any kind of promise to support the proposals of the Mexico conference, even if all Latin-American States should be in full agreement as to these.

Although the United States did not agree with all Latin-American suggestions, this did not mean that the United States is opposed to the opinion that purely regional problems should be solved in accordance with regional principles without interference by other States. The United States merely wishes to emphasize, that it desires to proceed to San Francisco with its hands free and without having made promises that it was ready to support the Latin-American republics at the San Francisco conference. Part of the United States delegation, however, agreed with the views of the Latin-American States.

HUGE ENEMY TOLL TAKEN IN ZAMBOANGA STRUGGLE

Japanese Guns, Air Units Heavily Blast Landing Activities of American Forces

By M. MATSUO and M. MIYAKE
Of the Military Press Corps

MINDANAO ISLAND, March 16.—Deluged by accurate Japanese artillery fire, enemy casualties topped the 500 mark on March 10 and 11 as the invaders continued landing activities at Zamboanga near the old airfield. Besides the losses in men, 12 enemy motorcars were damaged, two landing boats sunk and several supply dumps set ablaze by Japanese action.

Heavy Clashes Raging

Domei

PHILIPPINE BASE, March 13.—While large and small type enemy planes circled above Zamboanga and heavy fire was directed against the shore from over 10 enemy cruisers and destroyers, a part of the enemy force advanced into the Japanese line this afternoon as grim fighting ensued at several places.

In concerted action the Imperial Army and Navy forces damaged several tanks and killed over 100 of the enemy. Moreover, on the evening of the same day Japanese Air Units encountered enemy planes while patrolling the sky and in aerial combat downed one enemy plane while from a low altitude they machine-gunned a neighboring airfield and ground installations, setting these aflame.

WANT JAPANESE EXPELLED

Oregon Body Starts Movement for U.S. Constitutional Amendment

Domei

LISBON, March 14.—The Oregon State Property Defense League started today a movement for constitutional amendment, with a view to expelling Japanese residents and Japanese-Americans from the United States after the war, according to a dispatch from Gresham, Oregon.

At a mass meeting of the League today, one of the promoters, stated that the Japanese, whether American-born or naturalized in the United States, could not become good American citizens, and that was the reason why the movement for constitutional amendment must be pushed forward.

A section of Gresham citizens, however, are going to start a movement for the protection of Japanese-Americans, declaring that American citizenship should be granted to qualified men and women, irrespective of parentage, the dispatch added.

CRIMEA PLANS DOUBTED

People in Troubled Balkans Don't Trust Anti-Axis Schemes

Domei

LISBON, March 12.—"The Balkan people place little confidence in the practical realization of the plans drafted at the Crimea Conference and those to be made at San Francisco," says an Ankara cable to The New York Times.

The political disorder in Rumania and Bulgaria, the free-for-all fight in Greece and the vengeful bloodshed in Yugoslavia has once more turned the Balkans into the powder keg of Europe, the report adds.

What happened in Rumania during the past days was striking proof of the disregard for common responsibility and of the fact that the true democratic elements are not included in the interim governments of the anti-Axis occupied countries, the dispatch stressed.

Fears Japanese Strength

Domei

STOCKHOLM, March 14.—Sir Paul Butler, chief United Kingdom delegate to the UNRRA Pacific conference, told the Overseas League today at Melbourne, according to a London report, that the United Nations must be on guard for 20 years against permitting Japan to recover unless they wanted another Pacific war. "Their aims," he said "must be the restoration of China's stability, maintenance of unity of purpose of the four great Powers and reeducation of the Japanese people."

RAF Smugglers Active

Domei

STOCKHOLM, March 14.—A big smuggling scandal in which the crews of several British military planes are involved was disclosed today by a Stockholms-Tidningen report from London. It said that the planes carried out a regular traffic of goods which were smuggled from France to England and the United States. The smugglers obtained unbelievable high prices by selling the goods on the black market.

Koiso to Participate In I.H.Q. Conference As Emergency Move

In view of the military situation, it has been decided that the Prime Minister, as a special emergency measure, will, by Special Imperial Command, join the Imperial Headquarters, inform himself fully of the operational conditions and take part in discussions for the conduct of the war together with the Chiefs of Staff of the Army and Navy and the War and Navy Ministers, it was announced by the Board of Information at 4 p.m. on Friday.

BRITISH FLEET WILL FIGHT IN PACIFIC, NIMITZ BARES

U.S. Commander Tells Newsmen Operational Capacity of Two Navies Different

Domei

LISBON, March 14.—Regarding the participation of the British fleet in the war against Japan, Admiral Chester Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, pointed out the differences of operational capacity between the American and the British fleets to newspapermen yesterday, according to a San Francisco dispatch.

In this connection, Nimitz further said, "The British fleet will take part in the Pacific operations side by side with the American fleet. I have no doubt as to the operational potential of the British fleet. As to the differences of operational capacity between the two fleets, American warships are constructed for maximum mobility at the sacrifice of some other points while the British fleet which lacks speed must operate not far from the bases. The American fleet is capable of cruising continuously for two months, but the British fleet cannot do so.

"Sometime ago, I conferred with Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, Commander-in-Chief of the British Pacific Fleet, at the Headquarters of the U.S. Pacific Fleet for one whole week," said Nimitz, "and we then decided as to when and where the British fleet should be mobilized. But I cannot, at present, make any further comment on that. Of course, all the American bases in the Pacific area will be freely used by the British fleet."

Army, Navy Rift

Domei

LISBON, March 12.—The February 19 issue of Time, American weekly, has a report that gives the impression that the American army and navy forces are hopelessly divided in the Pacific area.

The report says:

"Admiral Chester Nimitz, as Commander-in-Chief in the Pacific Battle Zone, is possessed of the right of supreme command in the sea areas to the north and east of Luzon Island.

He has up to the present managed to get on well with General Douglas MacArthur, Commander-in-Chief of the Anti-Axis Forces in the Southwest Pacific.

"The officers and men under him have, as a whole, little kindly feeling toward General MacArthur. Among them there are many who believe intensely that General MacArthur has a very poor opinion of their exertions and those of the rest of the Navy.

"In a sense the Pacific battle has up to the present been at all times a naval battle. The prestige of the Navy in the Pacific at the present moment is such that it is entitled to a great measure of support both from the people and the Congress. But we should like to see the Navy avoid openly challenging General MacArthur who already is looked on as a national hero.

"It would seem that the policy of the Navy is to settle down and wait for the development of the situation in Luzon and for time to solve the problems with which it is confronted."

Wedemeyer Sees F.D.R.

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, March 12.—Lieutenant General Albert Wedemeyer, Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Forces in China, is reported to be holding a conference with President Roosevelt in Washington on the situation in China.

8 B-29 Crew Die in Storm

Domei

LISBON, March 14.—A sudden violent storm raged through a B-29 base in the southwestern Pacific area causing the death of eight persons and injury to 150 while about 25 freight and transport planes were damaged by the same gale today, according to a report from the Pacific front.

FURIOUS BATTLES RAGE AROUND NORTH VILLAGE

Invaders Lose Over 25,800 in Yiojima Struggle Since Landing, Says I.H.Q.

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
5 p.m. March 16

"1—Our Forces on Yiojima, firmly holding their vital positions at North Village and in the neighborhood of Higashiyama are continuously engaged in furious battle against the heavy enemy attacks.

"Our Units in the Tamanayama area, on the night of March 8, deliberately charged into the enemy ranks, inflicting tremendous losses, but the majority of our Forces are believed to have met a glorious end by March 13.

"2—Of the losses inflicted on the invaders by our Garrison Forces in land battles since the enemy landing, the results known up to the present total about 25,800."

Grim fighting is furiously being continued on Yiojima, particularly after the morning of March 13, when the invasion forces strongly backed by tanks and under cover of shelling and bombing operations began their stubborn assaults against our positions.

At dusk of the same day the Japanese position at Tenzan finally fell into the hands of the enemy. Our Shock Attack Units valiantly launched storming raids against the invaders but failed to repulse them.

Despite having been encircled by the enemy, Imperial Garrison Units at Higashiyama are continuing to fight with key points still in their hands.

At North Village the numerically superior enemy troops at dawn of March 14 commenced a violent attack under the protection of flame-throwers and tanks. Concentrating furious gunfire the enemy are persistently carrying out their offensive drive. Although the hilly sectors at North Village are enveloped in flames the Japanese succeeded in driving back the enemy by the evening of the same day. In the face of our strong counterattacks the Americans started to construct their defenses close to our positions.

A series of American drives were repeated at our positions near Higashiyama on March 14 but all of them were smashed.

In full force the Japanese Units at Tamanayama dashed into the enemy on the night of March 8 but by March 13 the majority of our officers and men appeared to have been killed in the gallant action.

U.S. General Escapes Death

Domei

LISBON, March 13.—Lieutenant General Holland M. (Howlin Mad) Smith, Commander of U.S. Marines in the Pacific, escaped death or injury by inches today, according to a report from Yiojima. Lieutenant General Smith, Major General Graves B. Erskine, Commander of the 3rd Marine Division, and three others were standing on a rock in northern Yiojima watching the fighting below when a concealed Japanese took a pot-shot at them, the report said. The General said that the bullet missed him by six inches. "I looked to see if there was a hole in my trousers. It felt that close."

Messervy Commanding Army

Domei

LISBON, March 13.—Major General Frank W. Messervy, Commander of the 7th Division of the British-Indian Army, has been directing the British-Indian 4th Army Corps in its advance toward Meiktila after crossing the Irrawaddy River at Pakkoku and Pagan, it was recently announced by the British-Indian 14th Army according to a dispatch from the Burma front. Messervy last year was besieged by the Japanese Army in the Arakan area.

2 B-29's Over Japan

One B-29 bomber flew over Kobe and Maizuru after passing through Kii Strait at 11:30 p.m. on Thursday and then advancing eastward entered over the southern part of Nagano Prefecture. Before fleeing through Tsuruga Bay at 12:30 a.m. the next day, it appeared over Shizuoka. At 6:30 a.m. on Friday, another B-29 coming from the direction of Cape Shionomisaki made a reconnaissance flight over Mie, Gifu and Toyama Prefectures. Flying further southward, the enemy plane penetrated the skies over the southern part of Nagano Prefecture and fled by way of Suruga Bay at 8:30 a.m.

BRITAIN PREPARES GROUND FOR POSTWAR AVIATION

White Paper Bares Plans for Big Corporations and for Employment of Air Force Men

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, March 14.—To realize Britain's ambition to dominate postwar civil aviation in the Empire, to secure a strong position in the coming international competition for air routes, and to provide postwar employment for the officers and men of her air force, the British Government has been formulating various plans. The essence of these plans, so far as revealed by a White Paper issued yesterday, is as follows:

Three main air transport corporations would be set up. These corporations would be responsible for maintaining service on:

1) Commonwealth air routes, with trans-Atlantic service to the United States, China, and the Far East;

2) The European air routes and the internal routes in the United Kingdom;

3) The South American route.

The Commonwealth and the North American routes, with their ultimate extensions to China and the Far East, would be assigned to the British Overseas Airways Corporation. The European and British internal routes would be assigned to a new corporation to be formed by railway companies, the Short Sea Shipping Lines, travel agencies, the British Overseas Airways Corporation, and other companies which operated such services before the war and wish to participate. The South American route would also be assigned to a new corporation, in which the participants would mainly be the British shipping lines operating to South America; the British Overseas Airways Corporation would participate here also.

To ensure efficiency of the services, the three corporations would join in the creation and the management of a combined organization for the overhaul of aircraft.

The appointment of the members of the British Overseas Airways Corporation would be vested in a Minister for Civil Aviation. The appointment of the directors of the other two main operating corporations would be subject to approval by the same Minister.

RAF Men Eligible

Every opportunity would be given to the officers and men of the Royal Air Force to enter the employ of the projected corporations, but the openings in civil air transportation will not be many, compared to the wartime strength of the Royal Air Force.

The British Government considers that any new routes, proposed as air traffic develops, should be left open to companies who can show that they are best fitted to run them. Further, the Government from time to time would require the corporations to operate new routes not provided for in the announced schedule of policies.

It is the general policy of the Company that both internal and external air services should operate without subsidy, as far as possible. Subsidies may be necessary for the European and the Latin American routes, but the other services regarded as essential by the Government are not faced with highly subsidized competition.

British aircraft would be used by the corporations as soon as it is available. Orders have already been placed for a number of civil planes.

The British Government is planning, as rapidly as war circumstances permit, a complete network of Commonwealth services, in full cooperation with other Commonwealth Governments.

Empire Meeting Set

Domei

LISBON, March 13.—The British Empire Delegates' Conference will be held early in April in London prior to the San Francisco World Security meeting, Reuter's political correspondent reports on reliable authority. The conference may last a week or 10 days and the object is to provide the delegates from all parts of the British Empire with the opportunity for a full exchange of views prior to the San Francisco meeting on April 25. The precise date and full personnel of the Empire Conference will not be announced for some time.

Bolster Communications

The first Wartime Communications Conference was held at the official residence of the Director of the Communications Board from 2:30 p.m. Wednesday. At this meeting, emergency measures to be enforced in case of damage to main lines of electric communication, and steps for general utilization of various communication facilities and immediate mobilization of telephones, were determined in order to guarantee Army, defense, production, transportation and intelligence communications and also to insure absolute coordination of communications.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

MARCH 15

South of Lake Balaton, our combat troops broke into the strongly mined main enemy battle zone despite stiffening Soviet resistance. On both sides of the Sarviz Canal additional strongly fortified strong Soviet points were taken after hard fighting. Thus the frontline was straightened out and counterattacks were repulsed. Battleplanes and fighters supported the attacks and inflicted serious damage in the Soviet supply service. In aerial combats and by anti-aircraft fire, 36 enemy planes were shot down.

In the Slovak Ore Mountains some far advanced Soviet assault groups were stopped in front of our rear strongpoints at Heiligenkreuz and at Altsohl. Yesterday's fighting at Schwarzwasser brought about a full defensive success for our fighters and grenadiers who time and again launched determined counterattacks while enemy positions north of Striegau were captured. The Breslau fortress is being successfully defended against the enemy pressing from the north and south while the Glogau garrison too, held its positions in defensive fighting.

On the Oder, in front of Stettin and in the Dievenow bridgehead the majority of the Soviet attacks collapsed in front of our positions. The defenders of Kolmar under constant heavy fire withstood incessant heavy enemy attacks and did not reply to two requests for surrender. In the Gdynia and Danzig salient especially in the Quassendorf area, the enemy breakthrough attempt supported by strong tank forces were again frustrated after heavy fighting.

In the defensive battle in East Prussia, enemy attacks launched on a wide front between Eisenberg and the fortress zone of Koenigsberg, broke down before our infantry, and the Soviet forces which had penetrated our lines were checked in front of our rear positions or driven back in counterattacks. Here 88 enemy tanks were destroyed. The complete German defensive success during the fifth battle of Courland compelled the enemy to discontinue his breakthrough attempts also in the Frauenburg area.

In the west on the lower Rhine, enemy troop movements and concentrations were effectively shelled by our artillery, in the face of strong enemy resistance our troops in counterattacks regained high ground and localities east of Remagen. Later, however, the Americans made some penetrations but they were sealed off. Against our front west of the Rhine the enemy launched major attacks on the Moselle, on the Saar and in the lower Alsace. By wholesale employment of smokescreens the enemy succeeded in gaining a foothold on the eastern bank of the Moselle northeast of Cochem and at Uerzig while heavy defensive fighting continues between the Osburg and Schwarzwaelder forests. Heavy fighting is also raging for our positions between Forbach and Hagenau.

In Italy, our parachute shocktroops south of Imola destroyed enemy strong points, took numerous Italian prisoners and inflicted high losses on the enemy.

Through attacks of enemy bombers on northwestern and western Germany damage was caused especially in the residential sections of Hanover, Hildesheim, Guetersloh and Hattingen on the Ruhr while American raiders bombed localities in southeastern Germany. During the night enemy terror bombers directed attacks against central Germany. According to reports thus far available our air defense forces shot down 23 four-engined bombers.

During the past few days numerous Storm Vikings (special units of the Navy) and midget submarines attacked targets in the Scheldt area. According to available reports, four vessels totaling 12,000 tons have been sunk.

'TITO' CRITICIZED BY TURKS

Yugoslav Premier's Aim to Dominate Balkans Resented

Domei

ZURICH, March 12.—The Turkish press is sharply criticizing the foreign political attitude of Marshal Joseph "Tito" Brozovitch, Premier of Yugoslavia, and especially his efforts to exclusively dominate the Balkans.

The noted Turkish journalist, Cemal Eddin Saracoglu, writes in the Yeni Abah Sabah that it was difficult to understand how Tito could assert that Turkey, which for centuries had been dominating the Balkans, was not a Balkan nation and had no business there.

Also, Yaltshin, writing in the Tanin, sharply criticizes the hostile articles which appeared in Belgrade papers denying Turkey's right to participate in discussions on the Balkan questions. Tito, Yaltshin states, wants to annex Macedonia, to dominate the area between Turkey and Greece, or in other words, Turkey's most vital interests.

Soviets to File Protest

Domei

STOCKHOLM, March 12.—The Soviet Government is expected to protest against the granting of asylum to former Rumanian Premier Nicolae Radescu in the British Embassy at Bucharest, writes the Observer. The paper expects that the liberal leaders Julius Maniu and former Premier, Bratianu will also take refuge in the British Embassy unless they have been arrested in the meantime. The flight of General Radescu to the British Embassy is considered in Bucharest as an anti-Soviet demonstration, according to the Observer.

Kadowaki Reaches Moscow

Domei

MOSCOW, March 11.—The newly appointed Counselor to the Japanese Embassy Suemitsu Kadowaki reached Moscow yesterday morning.

Inaugurating Student Army

To take up arms to defend their native country—that is the unquenchable desire of the university students in the Metropolis. With this strong wish they have decided upon the formation of a Student Army to save the country and the first mass meeting to realize this aim will take place at the Hibiya Public Hall from 1 p.m. Thursday.

JAPANESE FORCES IN F.I.C. HAVE SITUATION IN HAND

Important Institutions, Military Equipment Taken Over; Annamese Offer Cooperation

By I. ICHIKAWA, Y. YAMAMOTO, And H. HISAKADO
Of the Military Press Corps

HANOI, March 11.—With the issuance of an order to commence punitive operations against the French Indo-China authorities and troops that failed to understand the sincere proposal of the Japanese Government respecting the defense of Indo-China, the Imperial Japanese Forces stationed in French Indo-China immediately started action at 10:40 p.m Friday.

Fighting ensued at Hanoi, Haipong, Lanson, Tong, Lao Kay, Nam Dinh, Vinh, Sa Phin, Takok and other places. The French troops are being gradually brought under control due to the skillful operations of our forces. At dawn Saturday, important military equipment, as well as the principal Government institutions, in the Capital were almost entirely taken over by our troops. The Headquarters of the French Indo-China Army, the Communications Corps, the Citadel Garrison of the Infantry Nineth Regiment which is the strongest unit of the French Indo-China Army, the Bac Me airfield, the Peace Preservation Corps Headquarters, the Wireless Station, the Electric Light Bureau, the Post Office, Army Field Storage and others, were taken without fighting.

Many high military and civil officers of the French Indo-China Government have already been arrested. The fighting continued for eight hours, but from the outset of our military activity, the native residents came over to our side, offering their cooperation.

"About 80 per cent of the native soldiers had not been given any arms, and were compelled to fight on the first lines with only wooden rifles. Confronting the fierce attack of the Japanese troops, we were driven to the depths of fear and attempted to run away, but French soldiers stood behind us with rifles to urge us on. Thus we patiently waited for an opportunity to run to the Japanese side." Thus reported the native soldiers who joined our forces. The native soldiers immediately set themselves to cooperating with the Japanese Forces.

With the commencement of military operations, the general Japanese residents, men and women, came out as a volunteer corps, and assisted in the operations. The aged and children are safe, having been accommodated in Japanese schools and other places.

The general French public outside those connected with the French Government, as well as native residents were at their homes until the end, remaining very calm.

Matsumoto Explains Talks

By N. NISHITSUJI
Of the Military Press Corps

SAIGON, March 11.—Details of the negotiations with Governor General Vice-Admiral Jean Decoux of French Indo-China were revealed as follows by Japanese Ambassador Shunichi Matsumoto, in an interview given Saturday evening.

"It was at 7 p.m. Friday afternoon, that I met the Governor General in his study at his official residence. I fully explained to him for about one hour and fifty minutes, the nature and terms of our proposal and then asked him to give his reply within two hours after the presentation of the proposal.

"Giving due consideration to the relations between France and French Indo-China, to the present world situation, and to the war development, I asked him what he would do in the event of further intensification of British-American attacks on Indo-China, and told him that there would be no other way but to greatly strengthen the joint Japan-French Indo-China defense. But Governor General Decoux only answered that he would consult us without delay in the event of such a development.

"Even if he should be willing to consult us, such a step would not be of any value in case of a serious emergency. The necessity of taking proper measures beforehand for strengthening the joint defense, was the main point.

"Governor General Decoux seemed to have been surprised when he saw our proposal. He was also surprised that we should go to the pains of trying to convince the other party through diplomatic negotiations. From every angle I told him how advantageous it would be for both Japan and French Indo-China if he accepted the proposal, but after all he did not try to grasp the true intentions of Japan.

"After looking over our proposal, the Governor General asked if he could call in Claude M. B. de Boisanger, Head of the Diplomatic Service, and I consented, as it was proper to do so, our negotiations being purely diplomatic.

"After I left him, the Governor General consulted with the Commander of the French Indo-China Army, Division Commanders and finally replied by a letter that our proposal was rejected. Our side decided that the Governor General had no sincerity, and thus took the proper steps under the circumstances."

Two B-29's Collide Against Mount Zao In Miyagi and Crash to Doom Saturday

Domei

AT THE FOOT OF MOUNT ZAO, March 13.—At an interval of half an hour each, three B-29's penetrated from Fukushima Prefecture into the southern part of Miyagi Prefecture about 2 a.m. Saturday and flying at a low altitude took a northerly course in the direction of Mount Zao. However, two of the planes crashed to a fate deserving of their evil motives.

Of the three planes, the second plane, in changing the course of its flight, collided into the side of Mount Fubo, one of the mountains in the Zao Range and with a great detonation exploded, while the third plane met a similar fate as half an hour later a great column of smoke was seen about three kilometers distant from the place where the second plane had gone up in a ball of flame.

The second plane which fell not far from Shiraishi Village catapulted into the rocky, treeless side of Mount Fubo at a height of about 1,500 meters with the nose of the plane turned to the north, and the whole front half was turned into a mass of twisted, burning ruin damaged beyond recognition. Of the four motors, three were charred black while bits of the wing, apparatus, unexploded explosive bombs and oil incendiaries were scattered all over the deep snow.

Together with the collision, five members of the crew were thrown out while three were caught in the burning plane and no distinction could be made whether they were men or women, while one was found frozen to death. All of them were between 20 and 30 years of age, wearing faded green jumpers and reddish brown shorts, both patched at several places while they wore oversized rubber soled army boots and were stockingless. The belts were made of some substitute material. From such evidences it would seem that even in America things are not what they seem and her much vaunted resources are sadly being overtaxed.

TOTAL BREAKDOWN SEEN OF FRENCH IMPERIALISM

End Brought About by Independence of Annam, Swedish Paper Comments

Domei

STOCKHOLM, March 14.—The Independence of Annam means the breakdown of French imperialism, said the Dagsposten in its editorial yesterday.

"It is foolish to think Annam is a barbaric country, and this part of Indo-China, that had formerly been under French rule, possesses sufficient self-governing ability, as much as Burma or Thailand," the paper said. The independence movement in Indo-China placed much hope on Japan for some time, believing that it would be Japan that will give real assistance to the movement to liberate the Asiatic peoples from the selfish protectorate system of European countries.

"Then, with the taking over of the French Concession at Shanghai, the remnants of white imperialism in the Orient have been totally eliminated. The white race has acted as though it is the master of all countries inhabited by colored races, and has also been unable to differentiate ancient states with highly developed cultures from primitive Negro lands. The imperialistic role of France in the Orient is now ended with the independence of Annam and the taking over of the French concession at Shanghai."

Chiang Regime Worried

Domei

CANTON, March 12.—The news that the hostile elements in French Indo-China have been totally suppressed by the Japanese Forces has come as a shock to the resistance camp of Chungking, which is now watching the new development in Indo-China with much concern.

In the past, Chungking has been reporting with much exaggeration the Anglo-American plan to reach the China coast, particularly mentioning French Indo-China as a possible landing area, in order to keep peace in Southwestern China. In this connection, the Chung Ying Jih Pao of Chungking yesterday, editorially declared: "The new movement of the Japanese Army will have a very serious effect on the situation in the Southwestern provinces."

Not Breaking Ties With Spain

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, March 12.—The U.S. State Department announced today that it has no intention of breaking off diplomatic relations with the Spanish Government, according to a Washington report.

Envoy Wei, F.D.R. Confer

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, March 13.—Chungking Ambassador Wei Tao-ming to Washington yesterday discussed the coming San Francisco conference with President Roosevelt and promised the Chief Executive that the Chinese will do everything possible to make the April meeting successful, says a Washington report.

Over 25,000 Yanks Nabbed

Domei

LISBON, March 13.—More than 25,000 American soldiers in various war fronts are under arrest for murder, rape or desertion, reports the New York Herald Tribune according to a New York report. Additional 20,000 men are imprisoned for minor offenses in camps or garrisons.

British Losses Top 1,043,000

Domei

STOCKHOLM, March 13.—The number of killed, wounded or missing since the outset of the war up to November 30, 1944 aggregates more than 1,043,000, the British Undersecretary of War told the House of Lords today, according to a London dispatch.

F.I.C. OFFICIALS MISLED BY BRITISH, AMERICANS

Measures Taken by Japanese Military Authorities Natural, Says Ex-Envoy Yoshizawa

"Up to autumn of last year, Saigon in French Indo-China had been fulfilling its duty as an important commissary base for the Imperial Forces on the French Indo-China front," said Kenkichi Yoshizawa, former Japanese Ambassador to that country, in press interview just given here in Tokyo.

"Since November 1944, however, Saigon has for the second time become one of our bases of operations. The Anglo-Americans began to pay greater attention to Saigon and other regions in French Indo-China. On January 12, they made their first air-raid on Saigon, which rendered it necessary for the Imperial Forces there to take some countermeasures to protect Japan's strategic position in that country. This must be why the Japanese Forces there decided to effect the defense of French Indo-China by themselves, instead of doing so in cooperation with the troops of that country," continued Mr. Yoshizawa.

"I was in French Indo-China for three years ending November, 1944. While there, I found the attitude of the French authorities there to be satisfactory on the whole. This was because, I think, the Japanese Ambassadorial Office there from time to time gave necessary advices, while I from my own point of view advised Governor General Jean Decoux to follow a conciliatory policy toward our country. In answer to my advices, he always replied that he was determined to prosecute all his duties toward Japan as stated in the treaty. In fact, Decoux on various occasions gave strict instructions to be observed by all the military and civil officials under his control, who, however, sometimes showed themselves to be disobedient to his instructions. During last year, the Government of French Indo-China and the local authorities of that country as a whole behaved in accordance with the wishes and requests of our country.

"In short, I could leave my post there with nothing to worry about. On several occasions during my stay there, I came across some unhappy events, and I hear that similar events have taken place after my departure. The Japanese Forces in French Indo-China have been conducting their military operations in accordance with the terms of the Common Defense Pact, signed in July, 1941, and of the Military Pact signed on December 9 of that year, defining the duty of that country toward the Japanese Forces stationed there. These two agreements are of great importance to the Japanese Forces concerned, and I think it quite natural that the Japanese military authorities have taken the necessary measures against French Indo-China for her failure to observe them.

"During my three years' stay in that country, I observed that Governor General Decoux, through close cooperation with Japan, was desirous to deliver that country intact to the legitimate French Government to be established. Unfortunately, however, the regime of Marshal Philippe Petain, the only legitimate Government of France, left Vichy on August 20 of last year. Moreover, the French officials and people at large have since been misled by the Anglo-Americans. This, I think, has eventually led the relations between Japan and French Indo-China to rupture."

Matsui Exhorts Indo-Chinese

In a statement issued Monday, General Iwane Matsui, President of the Greater East Asia Development Headquarters of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, expressed confidence that the people of French Indo-China would now rise in order to gain independence, fully realizing the historic mission given the race as a member of Greater East Asia. General Matsui's statement follows:

"The Imperial Japanese Government has firmly dealt with the French Indo-China authorities who committed acts in violation of the joint defense agreement concluded between Japan and French Indo-China, and has at the same time formally proclaimed that the Japanese Government is prepared to render all possible assistance to the inhabitants of French Indo-China engaged in the defense of their homeland against the invaders of Eastern Asia, and in consonance with the principles of the Greater East Asia Joint Declaration, full support shall be accorded to their long suppressed aspiration to achieve national independence.

"Although for many years the aspirations for independence of the Indo-Chinese race was suppressed, the time has now come for the realization of these aspirations. The Greater East Asia Headquarters, which is the representative organization in Japan for the object of reviving and developing East Asia, wishes to extend the most hearty congratulations on this occasion to the inhabitants of Indo-China.

"Yet the great task of attaining independence is not at all easy, and numerous difficulties must be met. Naturally, it can be expected that the territory of Indo-China will be subject to British-American attacks, and the livelihood of the people may be threatened. But we should never allow America and Britain to grasp the prosperity of East Asia again in their hands. We fully expect that the people of Indo-China will now firmly rise with determined fighting spirit to take up arms to defeat the enemy.

"The 100,000,000 people of Japan firmly believe that their spiritual strength will conquer the material superiority of the enemy, and are thus engaged in furious day and night fighting to smash the enemy's ambition to invade Asia. We have no doubt whatever that our brothers in Indo-China, in whose veins flow the same Asiatic blood as that which flows in ours and who possess a glorious history, will now rise to realize the great historic mission now resting on their shoulders and fight to give to their descendants the glory of independence. Friends in Indo-China: let us, Japanese and Indo-Chinese, joining in ever closer unity, fight for the attainment of our common aim, and gain the final victory."

LONG-AWAITED FREEDOM WELCOMED BY ANNAMESE

Full Support to Japan in Construction of Co-Prosperity Sphere Is Pledged

Domei

HANOI, March 12.—Japan's statement of purpose to support the independence movement in Annam and the declaration by King Bao-Dai of independence for Annam whetted the already passionate desire of the Annamese for independence.

On February 22, previous to the change which has come about in the situation in Indo-China, eight organizations carrying on movements for independence in Indo-China, including the Tayueh National Socialist Party, the Tayueh Nationalist Party and the Tayueh Popular Party, all of which have headquarters in North Indo-China, combined to bring into being the Tayueh National League, an action taken in anticipation of the state of things which has come to prevail in Indo-China.

The Tayueh National League on March 11 at 5:30 p.m. held the first of a series of national meetings in the busiest part of the city of Hanoi to promote the speedy realization of independent Indo-China. More than 5,000 Annamese young men were present at the rally and gave enthusiastic approval to two slogans, "Cooperation with Japan," and "Achievement of Independence" which were offered by the sponsors of the meeting.

After the meeting those attending it paraded the streets.

The Tayueh National League, responding to the action of King Bao-Dai in the declaration of an independent Annam, declared in a statement issued on March 12 its determination to cooperate in the construction of a co-prosperity sphere for the Annamese race.

The League said:

"The Annamese race which has for years been groaning under the despotic rule of France, proponent of White Imperialism, has been enabled by the might of the Japanese Forces to establish overnight the foundations of an Annamese independent State.

"The Japanese Government declared on March 10 its readiness to give the fullest measure of assistance to the Annamese race in its struggle for independence. The Japanese action impressed the 25,000,000 Annamese profoundly.

"We, Annamese people, are pledged to cooperate with the Japanese Empire and assist to the best of our ability in the construction of a co-prosperity sphere in Greater East Asia."

Pledge Cooperation With Japan

Domei

HANOI, March 12—Inspired by the declaration of the independence of Annam by King Bao-Dai at Hue in Annam, the National Federation of Tonkin today issued a statement pledging full cooperation with Japan in the construction of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Region. The text of the statement follows:

"We, the Annamese people, who have for many years languished under the tyranny of imperialistic France, have been able, through the might of the Japanese Forces, to establish in a single day the foundation for the independence of Annam.

"Moreover, our 25,000,000 fellow countrymen have been deeply touched by the Japanese Government's statement of March 10 wherein Japan assured us wholehearted support in the attainment of the independence of Annam.

"We hereby pledge to do our utmost in wholeheartedly cooperating with the Japanese Empire in the construction of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Region."

Patriot Hails Action

Domei

SAIGON, March 12.—"The past 80 years were long, hard years for us Annamites," declared Annamese patriot Hoa Nien Thanh in greeting the news of His Majesty King Bao-Dai's abrogation of the French-Annamese treaty which for many years held Annam in bondage. Hoa Nien Thanh, who has been in constant hiding from the French authorities, disclosed that he and his comrades have been under constant French oppression and most of his compatriots have been either shot to death or have died in prison.

He added that several are probably still in the penitentiary at Poulo Condore Island. Hoa Nien Thanh declared that the latest Japanese action in French Indo-China has brought about what tens of thousands of soldiers could not have accomplished, and that it came so swiftly that the Annamese are still bewildered by this sudden blessing. With this chance affording a golden opportunity for the internal unification of Annam, "Annam for the Annamese" can be realized, he asserted.

He furthermore said that many hardships would probably confront reborn Annam under the stress of wartime but that Annam had undergone many such trials in which blood had been shed. Only through the united effort of all Annamites will the Annamese Empire be built up in Greater East Asia, he declared in conclusion.

Saigon Back to Normal

Domei

SAIGON, March 12.—After a night of silence, Saigon returned to normalcy yesterday morning. Even the Frenchmen who on March 10 refrained from going outdoors on account of the general unrest, appeared on the streets while French women were seen riding bicycles to market to do their daily shopping. With the exception of two or three places, traffic restrictions have been entirely lifted.

The native inhabitants, surprised over the non-cooperation and the anti-Japanese military measures of the French Indo-China authorities, are indignantly protesting against the action of their former rulers. Only a small number of Frenchmen including the Governor-General, the Army Commander and other high Government authorities, however, have been detained by the Japanese. Civilian Frenchmen and even Government officials who have pledged to cooperate with Japan, have been left unrestrained except to be forbidden to hide arms and to go outdoors after sunset.

The Japanese authorities have seen to it that the lives and property of the French are fully protected. The French themselves have expressed surprise at the lenient treatment accorded them despite the fact of Governor-General Jean Decoux's rejection of the just Japanese demands and the resistance of the French Indo-China Army which prompted the present Japanese action. Some French Government officials have even applied for continued employment at Government offices.

Some among the French are deeply critical over the anti-Japanese utterances and statements of the French Indo-China Army leaders despite the pact of joint defense between Japan and French Indo-China. These fair-minded men agree that these anti-Japanese acts were enough to tax Japan's patience.

Thus it may truthfully be said that Governor-General Decoux's rejection of the Japanese demands and the resistance put up by the French Indo-China Army did not represent the will of all the French in French Indo-China.

BURMA IS DETERMINED TO PULL THROUGH CRISIS

Renews Blood Pact With Japan On 3rd Anniversary of Rangoon's Liberation

Domei

RANGOON, March 7 (Delayed)—On the occasion of the third anniversary of the liberation of Rangoon today, Deputy Prime Minister Thakin Mya declared that this historic day finds the Burmese people more than ever determined to defend their beloved land against the onslaughts of the Anglo-American aggressors. Recalling the tremendous rejoicing amidst which the Burmese nation stood up again after long years of subjugation to start work on reconstruction following the uprooting of British power, Thakin Mya assured that the Burmese were now equally ready to pull through the crisis which Burma is facing.

The Deputy Prime Minister declared that the lofty ideals of freedom, justice and reciprocity which find expression in the Joint Declaration of the Greater East Asiatic Nations is serving as an unfailing source of inspiration to the crusaders of the New Order, and that the people of Burma today join the 1,000,000,000 souls of East Asia in renewing the pledge of utter dedication to the successful consummation of the sacred war.

Meanwhile, Thakin Nu, Burmese Minister of Publicity and Propaganda, assured the Japanese people on this occasion that the entire Burmese nation not only accepts the challenge of the Anglo-American invaders but are fully determined to render the utmost assistance to its allies within and without Burma.

He stated that Burma renews her blood pact with the Japanese nation which has helped Burma to gain independence and which at present is offering all-out aid for the maintenance of that independence. Furthermore, he emphasized that the crisis was on but that Burma pledges to remain side by side with Japan, in fair or foul weather, in the struggle for the existence of East Asia.

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ELASTIC DEFENSE TACTICS OF YAMASHITA EXPLAINE

General Master in Destroying Highly Mechanized Forces Of Vast Strength

Although the people are well-acquainted with the daring offensive strategy of General Tomoyuki Yamashita, Supreme Commander of the Japanese Army Forces in the Philippines, they do not know so well that he has lent years of study to defensive combat. The flexible Yamashita defensive strategy and how it is designed to destroy a highly mechanized enemy force possessing thousands of planes and tanks are explained by Genji Ikeda, of the War Reference Room of the Asahi Shimbun.

The substance of Mr. Ikeda's article appearing in the paper follows:

Subjecting the enemy to terrifying close-quarter assaults on every front in the Philippines, the Japanese Forces have inflicted losses of over 70,000 on the enemy and are continuing to harass the enemy's conduct of operations. The Japanese people, once made gloomy because of the speed of the enemy's advance, have been able now to feel a little cheer. The people expect much of General Yamashita. But their anxiety in regard to the Philippine situation can be said to be even greater. That is because they have learned, through the reduction of Singapore, of the cyclonic Yamashita offensive, but do not yet know that there also exists a Yamashita strategy for a tough defense. Their anxiety would be dissipated if they but knew this.

What is the Yamashita strategy for defense? The nearest way to a knowledge of this is to learn of the General's rearing and of his character. The General has no children, but when he was in Manchoukuo, there was a boy whom he loved as his own son. It is said that he used to tell him, "I want you to study hard. Study hardest when preparing your lessons, don't mind studying them ever afterward." The General was merely passing on as advice what he had practiced through elementary school, the military preparatory school, Military Academy and the Military Staff College. His military conceptions inevitably led to his greatness of today. "You can't fight a battle over after it is finished. Therefore, you must prepare more than fully beforehand." This was the way the General thought since childhood. Doing everything with this idea in mind, the General, since his days as a youthful officer, did not have to do anything over nor did he ever fail.

New Military Figure

The Yamashita strategy was always to strike where and when the enemy did not expect him to even while he was the commander of an army corps in China or while he was the chief of staff of an army. He was regarded as a new center among military circles.

Once, while the General was the commander of an army corps in North China, I asked him what he thought would be the outcome of the Affair. The General said, "Look at the Chinese. Standing in the midst of this war storm, they feel nothing about being attacked or being beaten. We Japanese, too, must settle down and hold ourselves calmly, and not rush to conclusions."

Later, the General drove into the very innards of gigantic China leading an army corps. He experienced the conducting of an offensive against continental China and also probably studied in concrete terms the strategy of the Chinese, who had swallowed the Japanese.

When, in the present Luzon operations, the enemy invaded the Luzon plain, the General grinned. "The enemy has entered our stomach!" The Japanese Forces have been fighting in gigantic China for eight years. But no solution has yet been arrived at. This indicates how serious and terrible a struggle the enemy which has driven into the midst of the tough Japanese Forces must undergo in the Philippines. Thus did the General grin happily. Why was the enemy able to surge southward like a tidal wave soon after landing at Lingayen Bay without much Japanese resistance? The enemy lost one-third of his landed force in the battle for Manila, but was unable to inflict any such blow on the Japanese. Rushing onto Luzon because of his superiority in Leyte, MacArthur was caught cleanly in the Yamashita strategy. MacArthur must be feeling intensely a vexed regret in having been too hasty.

Greatest Strategist in Army

General Yamashita is not only the greatest strategist in the Army, but a strategist of world-wide magnitude. He inspected the European front in 1940, soon after the outbreak of hostilities, at the invitation of Germany and Italy. At that time, the Germans concentrated their panzers, which had shaken the world with their power, and had the General inspect them. Reichsmarshal Hermann Goering slapped General Yamashita on the shoulder and asked in effect, "How are they? What do you think of them?" General Yamashita replied bluntly, "Not as much as I thought."

Taken rather aback by General Yamashita's words, the Reichsmarshal said, "Then shall we set them against the Japanese Forces?" General Yamashita quickly answered, 'All right. That will be just what we want. Let us decide which is better some time on the Iranian plateau or around Afghanistan." Whereupon the two leaders of fighting men embraced each other and laughed loudly.

There is no way of learning how Reichsmarshal Goering felt about General Yamashita's joke. But it is certain that the General was thinking in terms of how to defeat a highly mechanized mass force like the German.

After his return from Germany and Italy, the General spent all his time, until he assumed command of the force which reduced Singapore, in actual research on how to destroy a highly mechanized force. The so-called "flexible Yamashita strategy" was born of this research.

During this time, the General conducted studies on how to destroy with limited equipment, personnel and supplies a highly mechanized force possessing several thousand planes and tanks. This strategy was, therefore, not designed as swift and spectacular advance operations but were fundamentally unspectacular bleeding operations.

The General's strategy was constructed thus: When the enemy pours in thousands of planes and tanks into the objective battlefield, the main Japanese force instantaneously hides itself underground. When the enemy feels that he has found a weakness in the Japanese front, the mass Japanese force suddenly moves out to assault the enemy at close-quarters, to inflict a fatal bleeding upon him. This strategy is being conducted personally by the General on the Luzon front.

Successful in Luzon

It was because of his absolute confidence in the flexible Yamashita strategy that he declared immediately before the enemy's invasion of the Philippines, "How vast this place is? We can throw around our strength fully here. We will show you soon what will come out."

This Yamashita strategy is succeeding steadily in the Philippines. Although regrettably the control of the air and sea lies in the hands of the enemy, despite his absolute superiority, the enemy has been bled of more than 70 000 troops. Meanwhile, he has not been able to inflict such losses on the Japanese.

What is particularly notable is that the flexible Yamashita strategy is not a passive bleeding strategy.

Possessed of a fiery fighting spirit and vast confidence, the General will launch a vast annihilative drive once he sees a chance. This is the inherent character of General Yamashita.

Then when will be the time for this vast annihilative drive? It will be when the hastily-driving enemy starts operations of approaching Japan and landing and his supply problem does not progress as hoped for and the balance between the enemy's and Japanese fighting power in the Philippines is broken. That will be the time for General Yamashita's annihilative drive.

Taiwan, Central or South China, or Japan Proper, anywhere the enemy sets foot will be the scene for the conduct of this terrifying bleeding of the flexible Yamashita strategy. It will be hereafter that this strategy will show its true worth. The people now must embody this flexible Yamashita strategy. The killing of a hundred enemy forces by each, by close quarter action. The destruction of the enemy when the chance appears. This is the way to victory!

Heroic German Women

German women volunteers are shown in above photo hard at work in the production of armaments. Their aim is to send even one more bullet to the front on which their menfolk are daily battling heroically.

Press Comments

Friday, March 16

FINANCE MINISTER TSUSHIMA'S FIRST STATEMENT

ASAHI—On March 14, at the Bankers' Club's General Meeting, Finance Minister Juichi Tsushima made his first statement, not only encouraging the trend of unification of the financial organs such as the Finance Ministry, the Bank of Japan, and others, but also revealing a strong determination on the part of the Ministry to control the expenditure of all funds including military expenditures, thereby restraining the rise of prices.

The new Finance Minister, has also revealed his determination to carry out, as from April 1, a thorough-going simplification of the structure of the Finance Ministry by means of a large-scale reform of its official system which involves a reduction of the Ministry's sections by one-third of their present number and a decrease in personnel by one-half.

The following points are stressed by Finance Minister Tsushima:

All financial and industrial capital releases, including those for military expenditures will be strictly controlled. Advance money and payment against rough estimates will be adjusted, and the prices for military supplies will also be readjusted. Supply of capital for the securing of foodstuffs or increasing the fighting power will be made still speedier and smoother, while on the other hand, the policy of absolutely not releasing any funds for such enterprises which have become non-urgent or unnecessary will be strictly observed. On the other hand, stated Finance Minister Tsushima, it will be necessary to restrict the supply of capital for such enterprises whose working efficiency has been lowered in relation to the supply of materials and labor.

The essential question now is as to what extent all these points, which are most reasonable in theory, will be practically enforced. All the problems which have been worrying the finance authorities since the China Affair seemed never to have got beyond this scope.

To repeat, the most difficult of all difficulties always remains practical realization. This is a difficulty which cannot be overcome merely by the Finance Minister's determination or the simplification of the Finance Ministry's structure. Not only all the authorities of the Munitions, Army, and Navy Ministries, but all other officials and civilians, too, should display a clear insight and thus make the most of the Finance Minister's valuable determination. Thus it will be possible to avoid even the slightest gap that might affect the economic strength in our prosecution of the war.

Employing Raid Victims

Male raid victims between the ages of 15 and 50, and women victims with nursing and first-aid experience, will be specially employed by the Army. The men will be taken as wireless or telephone operators, office workers, or errand boys. Those with no lodging quarters will be temporarily accommodated by the Army. All those interested should make application to the War Minister's Secretariat at Ichigaya, Honmura cho, Ushigome Ward.

Social and General

German Ambassador H. G. Stahmer was host at a tea on March 13 to which were invited General Takao Suzuki, President of the Nippon Youth Corps, other members of the Youth Corps and members of the German Embassy. After the tea films were shown to the guests.

RADICAL CHANGE DECIDED FOR PRESS STRUCTURE

Emergency Setup Stresses Local Newspapers, Effective Use of Facilities

In view of the increasing importance of newspapers in stabilizing the people's morale and in reporting the latest news and information, and also in consideration of air raid and ensuing transportation difficulties, the Government at its Cabinet Council on Tuesday decided to effect a radical change in the newspaper publication system. This change will be carried out by the end of April this year.

A temporary emergency measure will be adopted, restricting the circulation of metropolitan papers outside the Metropolis instead, the circulation and scope of local papers will be expanded, to meet the demands of the respective territories. In this the cooperation of the metropolitan newspapers is looked for.

An outline of the new temporary emergency measure has been made public by the Board of Information as follows:

Metropolitan newspapers now being sent to districts where local papers are published will be amalgamated with such local papers. But in the case of districts around Tokyo, Osaka, and Fukuoka, that is, such districts as Chiba, Saitama, Kanagawa, Kobe, Nara, Wakayama, Kyoto, Shiga, and Yamaguchi prefectures, the present system of circulation of metropolitan papers will be allowed to remain.

The amalgamated paper will be published as a local paper bearing the names of both the local and the metropolitan paper. The circulation of metropolitan papers in such districts will be prohibited, the minimum number required in the prefecture excepted. The president, directors, officials and others of the local newspaper staff will not be changed, except in special cases.

The equipment and material belonging to metropolitan papers will be transferred to local papers as far as possible, through sale or loan. The personnel of metropolitan papers will be transferred to local papers as far as possible, and in order to avoid confusion, the personnel of one metropolitan paper will be transferred to one local paper.

With the enforcement of the above amalgamation of metropolitan and local papers, joint printing at one plant will be undertaken in Tokyo by five papers; in Osaka, by three papers; and in Fukuoka, by two papers. Part of the remaining printing facilities in these three cities will be made into reserve printing plants while part will be moved to local papers that have not sufficient printing equipment.

In the new newspaper publication structure the Tokyo Shimbun and the Osaka Shimbun will be treated as local papers and left in their present condition. The Nippon Sangyo Keizai Shimbun and the Sangyo Keizai Shimbun will be left in their present condition as long as their delivery to outside districts is possible, but in case transportation becomes difficult, the new measure will also be applied to them.

Along with the adoption of the new measure, the cooperation of the Domei Tsushin-sha, the structure of local papers and the guidance of local papers by the Board of Information will be bolstered so that there will be no danger of the standard of papers being lowered on account of the new structure.

Death Notice,

Miss AMY BAYNES NEWMAN

died

at Nanasawa Onsen

on February 9, 1945.

SWIFT RELIEF STEPS SET TO AID AIR-RAID VICTIMS

Sufficient Food, Daily Necessaries Distributed; Housing Problem Solved

Full, swift measures for the relief of air-raid victims are being taken in Tokyo. Those who seek haven in the refugee centers are immediately given a five-day supply of rice. Infants are rationed a five-day supply of condensed or powdered milk. In addition to these basic food rations, raid victims are being given miso, millet-mochi and pickled radishes.

Refugee centers are handing out hard tack, rushed in trucks from their storehouses in various public schools, as well as rice balls for immediate relief. Police from 21 districts, where the raids wreaked comparatively little damage, have been reinforced to aid in helping the raid victims. Fuel is rationed at ward offices or police headquarters in the various wards.

Blankets have been brought in from the nearby prefectures and the Army too has lent a considerable number. Candles, towels, matches, toilet paper, soap, and footwear will be distributed within a day or two, according to the Economic Bureau of Tokyo Metropolis. Fish and vegetables are distributed in one-day supplies. From 50 to 100 momme of horse radishes, onions and potatoes are rationed to each individual.

Raid victims are being cared for at national schools and temples. Those who have no place to go, either in the country or in the city, will be given lodging in the various wards. According to the program so far mapped out, victims from Nihonbashi ward will be housed in Akasaka ward, those from Kanda in Koishikawa, and so forth.

Meanwhile, the Metropolitan office is speeding the distribution of certificates, showing that the bearer is a raid victim. Twenty and 30-men squads are functioning efficiently in this work. Regulations concerning such certificates have also been revised so that such certificates will be issued with greater rapidity. There are two types of such certificates, however. One which is necessary to receive ration books for rice, miso, soya sauce, condensed milk, clothing, bedclothes and so on. These are issued at the ward office and any point of refuge in the city. Heads of street bloc associations and neighborhood associations will issue these certificates. The other certificate is one necessary to draw savings, rent a house, buy a ticket for dispersal, receive dispersal freight and so forth. These will be issued in the district where the loss was sustained.

The Government, in the meantime, has decided to establish a Cabinet Ministers' Council for Measures for the Relief of Air Raid Victims and a committee to effect swiftly the measures decided upon. The Council will be composed of the Ministers of Welfare, Agriculture and Commerce, Transportation and Communications and Minister Without Portfolio Sotaro Ishiwata, and will have the Home Minister as its chief. The committee will be headed by the deputy chief of the air defense general headquarters and will be composed of 13 members, including the Vice-President of the Board of Information, chief of general affairs bureau of the air defense general headquarters, chief of the business bureau of the same headquarters, heads of the concerned departments of the ministries of Welfare, Agriculture and Commerce and Transportation and Communications, Vice-Governor of Tokyo Metropolis, Chief of the Metropolitan Police, and chief of the general affairs bureau of the Finance Ministry. Separately, concerned officials of the various ministries will hold posts in the air defense headquarters to aid in the formulating of various measures.

Ordinance Is Issued On Leaflets Dropped From Enemy Planes

Considering that propaganda leaflets were scattered by the enemy aircraft that recently raided the Tokyo and Yokohama areas, and that such tactics will be repeated by the enemy, the Home Ministry has issued an ordinance, making it obligatory for the people to present to the authorities the leaflets in question, wherever and whenever found. The people have hitherto cooperated with the authorities concerning the matter, under official guidance, but the new ordinance has now been issued by authorities of the Home Ministry. The order provides for penal servitude or imprisonment of not more than ¥100 against those who neglect their obligation.

BURMESE PREMIER BACKS JAPAN'S ACTION IN F.I.C.

Ba Maw Welcomes Imperial Government's Steps in Wiping Out Darlanism

Domei

RANGOON, March 13.—Declaring that he is in complete agreement with the Japanese Army's action in French Indo-China, Prime Minister Dr. Ba Maw of Burma in a verbal statement at a press conference yesterday said that it took place "not a bit too soon nor too much." He added, "in fact, since the Darlan affair the French policy has become nakedly pragmatic," and that action would have been justified even earlier.

"The Darlan technique was, from the point of view of certain Frenchmen, "successful in the West," he said, adding that since then it seems to have become "part of the French national policy itself." The Prime Minister stated that the Darlan technique was used against Burma's allies in the West not once but several times and that it was clearly the duty of East Asia to see to it that it is not repeated with success in the East.

Pointing out that French Indo-China is too vital to the East Asiatic defense system and its lifeline for the East Asiatic nations to take any risks there, Dr. Ba Maw stated that Japan was therefore "dead right" in taking the necessary steps to wipe out Darlanism in that sector. There was also another angle to the recent Japanese action and its consequence, Dr. Ba Maw declared, adding that "a blow has been struck at last on Western foothold in the Eastern world and millions of East Asiatics have been liberated."

Welcoming the Japanese Government's announcement that independence will be granted to the peoples of Indo-China as soon as conditions permit, Dr. Ba Maw said that the East Asiatic world built upon the Joint Declaration of the Greater East Asiatic Nations at Tokyo has thus been completed. He declared that all East Asiatic peoples will very soon be free so that East Asia will really belong to the East Asiatics. There has been "no holier cause than this in the whole course of history," he said, adding that: "not only the press but the entire Burmese nation wholeheartedly welcome the Japanese action."

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TOKYO NATIONAL SCHOOLS SUSPENDED TEMPORARILY

To Protect Children From Air Raids; Measures Decided for Pupils' Evacuation

In order to protect school pupils from enemy air raids, which have become more intensified of late, national schools in the districts which have become targets of enemy aerial attacks, will stop classroom work temporarily, it was announced on Wednesday, simultaneously by the Education Ministry and the Board of Information. Prior to the announcement, at the Cabinet meeting held on March 9, various matters concerning the evacuation of children were decided.

In accordance with the recent Cabinet decision, the pupils now enrolled in the first and second grades of national schools, who have been hitherto exempted from collective evacuation, will evacuate from Tokyo to the country where they are expected to stay with their relatives. Those in the third, fourth, fifth and six grades are advised to evacuate from Tokyo as soon as possible either collectively or individually.

For those who must remain in Tokyo, some kind of educational measures will be devised so that they will be able to continue their studies.

With the Government's announcement of the suspension of instruction in national schools, voices have been raised in advocacy of a similar move embracing all schools, from the senior course of national schools to universities.

Meanwhile, there apparently has been some confusion in regard to the terms, "suspension of instruction" and "closure of schools."

The former term means that no classes will be held for a time but that the educational system and the school structure will remain, whereas the latter implies not only the discontinuation of all classes but the dissolution of the educational system and of the school structure as well as the abolition of the status of instructor and that of student.

That the Government's conception is the former and not the latter is clear from the mobilization of student labor during the past year. The Government apparently is considering a suspension of all classes, but if and when this is carried out, it will be done with the system intact and with a solid organization of students led by their instructors. A solidly organized bloc will be swung to the strengthening of fighting power.

In regard to this point, the Asahi pointed out that care was necessary firstly to simplify and make more effective the guiding policy in respect to student mobilization, and secondly to continue instructions in careful, detailed study in this regard is necessary, the journal stated.

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Implications of the Act Of Chapultepec

The Act of Chapultepec which was adopted at the Pan-American Conference at Mexico City presents another glaring example of the nature of the United States' ambition in the Western Hemisphere and toward the world. This Act which was introduced under the principal sponsorship of the United States provides for the use of the united political, economic and military strength of the United States and of nineteen Latin American nations to prevent aggression by any Power within or without the Western Hemisphere.

Regionally, this Act is clearly aimed at ensuring the domination of the Western Hemisphere by the United States. This is plain from the fact that the only nation with sufficient military power to put down "aggression" in the Western Hemisphere is the United States and that the Latin American countries are powerless to resist her imperialistic encroachments. The insertion of the clause calling for "united" action on the part of the signatory nations of this Act of Chapultepec in stamping out "aggression" in the Western Hemisphere is, therefore, a mere camouflage. This Act is plainly designed to give the United States, under the pretext of guarding against "aggression", license to interfere in the internal and external affairs of the Latin American countries and to remove political elements from these countries which refuse to submit to her economic and political designs.

This Act, of course, had direct application to Argentina, the only nation south of the Rio Grande which has so far consistently and courageously resisted the imperialistic ambition of the Colossus of the North. It is evident that, some time in the near future, the United States will seek to oust the Farrell Government of Argentina by some sort of military measure in view of the fact that her economic sanctions and her diplomatic pressure have failed to undermine the stability of the present Argentine Government. The recent appeal sent out in the name of the Pan-American Conference but actually at the instigation of the United States to the Argentine people—not the Argentine Government—to cooperate with the other Latin American countries in the anti-Axis war effort seems to be a curtain-raiser to some impending development. But it must be apparent to all the Latin American countries that this Act of Chapultepec is directed as much against them as at Argentina. By approving this Act, they have opened their doors to the intervention by the Northern Colossus in their domestic and foreign affairs.

In the light of these stern facts, it is highly doubtful that the nineteen Latin American countries which participated in the recent Pan-American Conference could have voluntarily signed away their independence and sovereignty. Their adoption of this Act can by no means be interpreted as a "reversal of their attitude toward the United States" nor as an indication of their voluntary readiness to follow her leadership. The unanimous endorsement of this Act by the freedom-loving Latin American countries is not only unnatural but extremely suspicious. That it was accepted by them at all tends strongly to confirm the fact that the United States employed unscrupulous tactics at the Conference to force its adoption. No other interpretation of the reasons for the Latin American action can stand the test of logic.

Internationally, this Act of Chapultepec also has far-reaching significance. It will be recalled that Senator Tom Connally, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, on March 4 stated that this Act which he described as "a regional security arrangement" would be "integrated and coordinated with the world organization". This statement is a clear hint that at the coming San Francisco Conference the United States' delegation will present a proposal for the incorporation of a provision in the charter of the proposed international peace organization along the lines of Article 21 of the League of Nations Covenant which stipulated that "nothing in this Covenant shall be deemed to affect the validity of international engagements, such as treaties or regional understandings like the Monroe Doctrine, for securing the maintenance of peace". In other words, this Act of Chapultepec is an extension of the Monroe Doctrine in that it would bar the intervention, military or otherwise, by the proposed peace machinery in the affairs of the Western Hemisphere.

The sinister character of the American ambition is at once manifest. Through the incorporation of such a provision in the charter of the projected peace machinery, the United States seeks not only to free herself from all outside restraint in carrying out her scheme for the complete domination of Latin America but also to deprive the Central and South American countries of the right of appeal to the projected peace organization for a hearing on violations by the Northern Colossus of their national independence and sovereignty. That is, the United States' aim is to place her unscrupulous conduct in the Western Hemisphere completely outside of the jurisdiction of the proposed international security machinery. But, on the other hand, this does not mean that the United States will refrain from intervention in the affairs of the other countries of the world. Her object in advancing such a proposal is to ensure her unmolested domination of the Western Hemisphere so that she may have a free hand to extend her imperialistic power to the other sections of the world.

The reaction of the Soviet Union and Britain to this Act of Chapultepec at the coming San Francisco Conference will be interesting to watch. Will these countries demand, in return for their recognition of the principle of non-intervention in the Western Hemisphere, similar guarantees of non-intervention by the United States in their spheres of influence and possessions? In the event such political arrangements are reached by the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union and incorporated in the charter of the projected league of nations, would not the purpose of the peace machinery be defeated? Moreover, what effect will the incorporation of the principle of Chapultepec in the proposed draft of the world peace organization have on Britain's relations with Canada? Is the Act of Chapultepec a scheme on the part of the United States to bring Canada, a very important pillar of the British Commonwealth, more securely within the clutches of American imperialism? These are questions whose answers will have an important bearing on the future relations of the Anglo-American countries and on the future of the proposed international peace machinery.

A Year Ago Today

March 17, 1944

The United States Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives cancelled the resolution introduced to Congress some time ago for establishing a Jewish Kingdom in Palestine, in compliance with the recommendation for its cancellation submitted by U.S. army circles, it is reported from Washington.

* * *

U.S. Secretary of State Cordell Hull, at a press conference, said that the United States is not considering the recognition of the Badoglio regime, according to a Washington dispatch.

* * *

The appointment of Alfred Hoffman as the Supreme Commander of the Chilean Navy was announced by the Chilean Government, according to a Santiago report.

* * *

Admitting the advance of the Japanese Forces in the Chin Hills area, the anti-Axis headquarters of Southeastern Asia in its communique regarding the war situation on the central firing line declared that the Japanese Forces in the area north of Tidim as well as in the Kabaw Valley in the Chin Hills area are continuing their advance.

* * *

Imperial Japanese Forces on the spot repulsed 10 enemy SBD's and Grumman fighters that attempted to attack Taroa Island in the Maloelap Lagoon in the Marshall Group in the morning. No damage was suffered by the Japanese side.

REORGANIZATION OF U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT

Industrial, Economic Experts Take Over Important Posts

The following is a translation of an article which appeared in the Oriental Economist magazine.

There is one new change in America which has been brought about as a result of the re-election of Roosevelt. This change is the resignation of State Secretary Hull and the appointment of Undersecretary of State Stettinius as his successor. This change is, however, as unimportant as the changing of a picture on the wall.

For a long time Hull was unable to look after the conduct of foreign affairs because of his advanced age. It is a well-known fact that the diplomatic negotiations which Ambassador Nomura had held with Hull before the outbreak of the Greater East Asia War frequently held at the latter's sick-bed. In recent months it was Stettinius who was actually in charge of the work.

The position of Secretary of State in America differs from the situation in Japan where the respective State Ministers are responsible politically for the affairs in their charge. The Secretary of State in America is a mere lieutenant of the President. It goes without saying that the Secretary of State is the leading man in the cabinet and that his position is an honorable one ranking next to the President. The diplomatic policy of the nation can be greatly influenced by the personality and opinions of a Secretary of State such as was the case when Hayes, Hughes and others held this post. The Secretary of State can also be removed when his opinions do not coincide with those of the President as has been revealed in the example of Lansing in the Wilson cabinet. All in all, the post of Secretary of State depends on the personality of the man holding it.

Governed by Roosevelt

In case of Hull and Stettinius, their policy is almost entirely governed by the will of Roosevelt. Although Hull is a senior of Roosevelt in the matter of age, the abstract and humanitarian words which Hull liked to use served in fact merely as a lubricating oil of Roosevelt's foreign policy. Stettinius most probably is regarded by Roosevelt merely as one of his brain trust.

It is ironical that this fact has come out in the open three months after Stettinius was appointed Secretary of State. British Prime Minister Churchill made an open declaration before Parliament on December 15, 1944, that an agreement had been concluded between Britain and the Soviet Union regarding the problem of disposing Poland and that Roosevelt had given his consent in this regard beforehand. Stettinius issued a statement through the press in regard to Churchill's speech that the "supreme official of America" has most emphatically denied Churchill's declaration. In the meantime, news apparently believed to have come from the American State Department furiously opposed the underhand dealings between Britain, the Soviet Union and France. This had its effect on the political circles in Britain and other countries and created a big confusion there. It was since this time that the opposition between America and Britain came to the surface.

Stettinius suddenly issued a statement on December 18, 1944, to the effect that America has no objections regarding the problem of the Polish borders if there should be an agreement among the nations concerned. What does this mean? What Stettinius had said in the beginning is just when regarded from the standpoint of America. It is most likely that Stettinius has suddenly changed his standpoint because of having been scolded by Roosevelt. It is also probable that Roosevelt had been indirectly cautioned by Churchill that it was inconvenient to have this young Secretary of State say things like a salesman of the General Motors with which Stettinius was formerly connected. There cannot be the slightest doubt that the salesman diplomacy of Stettinius had already exposed its true nature from the start.

Suited For His Position

However, I have not the intention in the least to dismiss this salesman-like Secretary of State with a laugh. Stettinius is most suited for this position, with the experienced Roosevelt holding the strings and giving out orders. Stettinius became the vice-president of the General Motors at the age of 31 and the president of the United Steel Corporation at 36. Regardless of what kind of background Stettinius may possess, he cannot be a commonplace man, especially in a country like America where men are appointed according to their talents. At the same time the appointment of Stettinius as Secretary of State is not without significance in view of the fact that America's imperialistic development in the future lies in the economic field. Soon after assuming the post of Secretary of State, Stettinius carried out changes among high officials in the State Department and appointed a large number of young industrialists. It is as everybody has expected that the reshuffle was a preparation for America to commence her dollar diplomacy.

Another thing which must be noticed in this connection is the fact that Joseph Grew, former Ambassador to Tokyo, had been appointed Undersecretary of State. There is not a single expert on Japan in the American Government. The appointment of Grew was made for the purpose of covering this defect. Grew's reports which he had made to the State Department while he was ambassador to Japan, his book entitled "Report from Tokyo" which he had published after his return to America have greatly contributed toward making him an expert on Japan in the government and among the people of America. Roosevelt will most likely decide big problems himself but Grew's opinion will be most seriously considered in regard to concrete problems so far as they concern Japan. The appointments of other new high officials of the State Department became an issue before the Senate but Grew's appointment alone was accepted unconditionally.

All in all, the reorganization of the State Department provides a key to Roosevelt's world policy. Roosevelt frequently changes his brain trust (a group of young advisers) but the members of his cabinet have hardly changed during the past 12 years excepting in cases of death and illness. It is not appropriate to attach weighty importance on the reshuffle itself in this case but it is significant that a 44-year old businessman has been placed in the highest position of the cabinet. The new Secretary of State announced a five-point foreign policy program before the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate. The second point states that "methods will be adopted which will insure that Japan and Germany will not be able to acquire the strength to make wars in the future." The fourth point declares that a great expansion in the trade and production of America will be carried out which will secure employment for everyone and which will raise the living standards of the American people. These two points have the same objective in view. They aim at bringing pressure against Japan and Germany, the dreaded competitors of America, and to increase America's production and trade. Only victory in the Greater East Asia War can crush this impudent ambition of America. Brutal force is the only word which the American people can understand.

THE AMERICAN MIRAGE

U.S. Plan for Restoration of Economic Liberalism Can Never Lead to Real International Prosperity

By KAORU HARA
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(From the Gaiko Hyoron)

I

The Anglo-American enemies have been carrying on their ideological offensive of holding a series of international conferences with the Atlantic Charter as their main platform, thereby creating the false impression that they are ready to construct an ideal Anglo-American society after the close of the current world war. Let us see, however, if the interests between the Anglo-Americans, particularly the United States, and the world in general are compatible.

The Atlantic Charter sounds fine; it creates the mistaken impression that a lasing world peace would be ushered in no time. However, a closer scrutiny into their motives and economic interests and the conditions of world economy reveals otherwise. Supposing for a moment the possibility of the formation of liberal economy after the war, the Anglo-American world order would mean the end of national freedom and tyrannical oppressions by American capitalists. There would exist only two or three strong nations, who placed in separate spheres of influence, will maintain their dubious friendship toward the United States.

We should grasp the reality of the Atlantic Charter and question its ethical nature, if it possesses any, by examining the Anglo-American economic interests and motives for their policies. In the present article I shall take up those, which concern with the enemy's economic policies and their economic order.

The object of the United States, as seen in her various postwar measures, is free economy based on free competition and its ultimate aim is to elevate the standard of living of her people. Her objects are as follows: to abolish such regulations in foreign trade as import quota, trade monopoly, excepting tariffs and to establish the principle of equality treatment; in the fields of currency and finance, to abolish exchange control and to restore the free exchange system based on gold standard; to demand the abolition of international cartels which monopolize and divide the markets and putting private restrictions on the free market to raise the prices of such raw materials as tin and rubber; to demand the opening of the colonies which have been turned into exclusive markets of the home country; and to force the world to recognize the right of freedom of the air.

Now, the question before us is why is it that the United States should demand freedom of the 19th century brand? I am of the opinion that the biggest motive for this lies in the international advance of American capitalism. The productive power of the United States made a steady expansion year after year, but her domestic production was not sufficient to satisfy her vast domestic demands. And this is the reason why the United States was able to maintain her isolationist policy politically.

However, this state of affairs gradually underwent changes since the end of the 'twenties and with the current world war as the turning point the industrial structure of the United States underwent a complete transformation. While her war industry expanded by six or seven times as compared with the prewar level, her agriculture and peace industries have remained practically on the prewar basis. For this reason, although part of her manpower absorbed by the war industry may return to the peace industries and commercial enterprises after the war, these industries will not be able to absorb the entire manpower now employed by the munitions industry, so that the war industry will have to remain on a large scale. If its reconversion should be attempted forcibly, there will be formed a large army of unemployed.

Trade Expansion Inevitable

Thus, whether she likes it or not, the United States will have to direct her surplus productive power abroad. It is inevitable that she should change from her policy of isolation to that of intervention in foreign affairs. Moreover, since she possesses absolute confidence in her industrial technique and large-scale production, it is only too natural that she should favor free competition. Now, international markets are full of restrictions, control, and planned and bloc economy. If she should advance in the field of foreign trade, it is inevitable that her advance will be hindered by such restrictive systems as quota, cartels and preferences. If she should attempt to make investment overseas, the future of her advance in this field would be hampered by the existence of exchange control and exchange devaluation. If she should attempt to expand her international air network, there will be rigid principle of territorial sovereignty standing in America's way. Then, there would also be colonies and spheres of influences established by other nations.

It is because of all this that the United States is attempting to forestall the inevitable collapse of the free market and to give it a new lease of life by interfering in international economy. Nay, not content with the restoration of the free market, she is even desiring to prevent its future relapse by regulating the world order and by imposing economic sanctions on those who would violate the law imposed by her. But such attempts would be as futile and vain for a human agency as the proverbial attempt to recall and restore the sinking sun to its noon-day glory and to prevent its recurrent fall beneath the rim of the western horizon. But in order to coerce other nations, the United States must possess real power based on her economic power. It is because of all this that the United States has decided to uphold the productive power of her heavy industries which have made a phenomenal expansion on account of the war and to monopolize the petroleum resources which form the very basis of national power in time of peace and war and is wishing to turn Germany into an agricultural country because of the technical excellence of that country, so that the United States may be able to enjoy monopoly in industrial technique in the future. Again, for the same reason the United States is demanding freedom and emancipation for the entire world and is attempting to turn small nations into a class of international traders. Moreover, for the same reason the United States has been attempting to bring about the existence of many small nations in East Asia and has included the principle of free access to raw materials in the Atlantic Charter although it is only a sham.

Small nations, which have only restricted territories, would have scanty natural resources and would be in no position to develop their heavy industries. Such nations would be forced to build up light industries and would have to depend on income from the tourist trade; they would return to the condition of international traders and would become "peace-loving" peoples.

Let us firmly grasp the intentions of the United States in all these plans. She would sweep away from the whole world all the ideas of Hegel and List so that there may be no room for the existence of any idea of a broad-sphere economic order; but she herself desires to maintain a national-power economic position based on the idea of List, in order to assure the development of her own capitalism, defend democracy and supervise over the entire world. In other words, what she is planning is based on the plan of promoting her own national interests.

But is it possible to restore the order of free economy? Will such restoration assure the economic happiness and welfare of mankind? I shall return to these questions later, but I must say here that the answers to these questions would be best given by the New Dealers headed by Franklin Roosevelt who had to put the American free economy on a planned basis.

British Aims Differ

To attempt to restore free economy coercively would be imposing something impossible upon the world and the very fact that the United States is determined to carry out such an impossible scheme indicates the unspeakable unreasonableness and arrogance of the United States who regards the world as a mere market and as something without any personality.

The position and aims of Britain, on the other hand, are diametrically opposed to those of the United States. Just as the disposal of poverty was a great problem for Britain even before the Industrial Revolution, so even today "welfare" is a great problem for her and she finds herself in a position where she must promise her people the adoption of social insurance systems and the policy of complete employment for her working population in the postwar.

Before the current war, Britain was able to maintain her standard of living because she possessed such sources of income as investments and shipping revenue, both of which were non-trade incomes. In the current world war, however, she has been unable to defray her war expenses out of her national income and has had to exhaust almost her entire accumulated capital. Moreover, she has incurred the debt of 5,000,000,000 pounds under the Lend-Lease arrangements and other debts to the sterling territory in the form of blocked sterling, so that she is not in a position to assure welfare to her own people. This is enough to indicate the gloomy economic outlook of Britain. Moreover, her shipping tonnage has been reduced to one-half of her original amount, namely, to 9,000,000 tons, so that her income from shipping cannot be much for a considerable period of time to come. The only way to bring about her salvation is for her to submit to the United States and secure loans from that country or undertake a drastic expansion of her own foreign trade. But since loaning is a patchwork solution, the only way open for Britain is to carry out her policy of trade expansion. But she now finds the United States looming large on the horizon of international trade as a great exporter of capital who threatens Britain's markets and resources and who has been demanding the abolition of preferences and cartels. Nay, the United States is showing her determination of industrializing even India itself which is Britain's treasure house. If she should endorse the American advocacy of freedom and the open door, she would be driven out of her own markets and would become a member of the Dollar Empire. But this will be something that Britain's national pride would not permit. Thus, Britain is intending to bring about her economic restoration by her own power. True, she will utilize American capital but it will be strictly a means for attaining her object. Thus, Britain is struggling to repel the American demands and aggressive incursions. It is clear then that Britain's national philosophy and aims are basically different from those of the United States.

Keynes' Proposal

But it is not recently that Britain's economy and her policies were designed along different lines from those of the United States. In 1931, Britain became the exponent of protection and control and thus her own economic theory and policy underwent a radical development. But when the United States began to menace Britain with her gold standard and free economy, the latter felt the necessity of opposing that country. It is because of this fact that J.M. Keynes became a world figure by representing the new economic gospel of his country. This is because his economic theory best suits the real conditions of Britain and best defends her position.

His idea of international economy comes from his thesis that full employment is the greatest economic policy and that to attain this there must be an equilibrium in trade. He proposes to create a system of equilibrium which would be capable of replacing the gold standard which in the past functioned to bring about equilibrium in the ever-expanding international accounts. In other words, he advocates a scientific method of adjusting unequal accounts based on an expansion-method instead of some restrictive method; in other words, he is in favor of seeing import-excess nations increase their exports instead of restricting their imports and export-excess nations increase their imports instead of decreasing their exports. It goes without saying that ideas such as this should come to a frontal collision with the American idea which favors the 19th century order of many-sided foreign trade. In the first place, according to Keynes, a nation must buy to the amount of its exports. But, as I shall explain later, this is something impossible for the United States, so that she would naturally have to restrict her exports. The result is that she would have to contract her productive power to that point where it will be equivalent with the purchasing power of the world and in consequence her power of overseas investment or her power of exporting capital which is a powerful weapon in world economy would be greatly depreciated. This is the aim of Britain. This is the idea which is the outgrowth of the theory of complete employment which was developed after the world depression of the early, thirties.

(To Be Concluded)

SITUATION IN FRANCE

Acute Economic Misery Puts Nation to Test

The London Economist on February 10 writes under the heading, "World Overseas," as follows:

Political strife in France has not yet achieved any balance. Acute economic misery has put the Provisional government to a very severe test. Communications between Paris and the provinces are not still fully restored and in consequence has no effective control of the country.

Only a very few of its measures have been carried out on a national scale and the Provisional government is still confronted with the task of making its authority real throughout the country.

That France, deprived of sufficient food, and heating and with growing unemployment in towns, has endured a tragic winter without any major social or political disturbances must be in itself regarded as a considerable political achievement.

Nevertheless, there are elements of tension and political crisis in almost every field and it is possible that the tension will come more strongly into the open with the approach of spring when physical hardships no longer absorb the energies of the ordinary people.

It is against this background that the need for economic relief for France is so important and urgent. Equally urgent is also the need for tackling some of the major social and political problems which are still largely unsolved.

The government has now decided to bring the purge to an early conclusion. It has been decreed that for the central administration it should be terminated by February 15 and for local administrations by March 15. All trials of collaborators, in which charges are grave enough to allow for death sentences, are to be finished by May 1.

Live in Uncertainty

The government's determination to bring the purge to a close within this short term has sprung from the conviction which is undoubtedly justified that there can be no stability in the administration as long as the civil servants may suddenly find themselves charged with collaboration.

It is true that the government runs the risk that by putting so quick and radical an end to purge it will expose itself to criticisms and may be accused of having spared the collaborators.

But that risk has now been removed at least by the support which the government has recently received from the Communist Party, hitherto the greatest single political group in semi-opposition to De Gaulle.

The fact that two Communist ministers sat on the Provisional government ever since it was formed at Algiers, has not prevented the Communist Party from adopting an ambiguous attitude toward the government.

Last October, the Communist Party backed the Milices Patriotiques against the government when the militias were asked to lay down their arms and disband.

Communist influence was then strong enough to frustrate the government's move.

Milices Patriotiques, renamed Gardes Civiques Republicaines, have survived until now and as a sort of a private policy they have exerted control over some outlying departments.

Similarly, the Communist Party used its influence to keep in being the dualism of authority expressed in rivalry between the prefects, local municipal councils and the Committees of Liberation in the province.

Makes Poignant Appeal

This policy has now been somewhat sensationally reversed. On January 22, Maurice Thorez, Secretary General of the Party, outlined the main points of the new Communist policy in a speech to the Party's central committee.

Thorez appealed rather poignantly to his followers to shelve the revolutionary social aspirations, at least, until after the war.

He summed up the present Communist policy as follows:

1) Everything for war against Germany.

2) France must rebuild a great army at least a million strong.

3) Stepping up of war production is the Communists' first duty.

4) French Democracy must be revived.

5) The Communist Party must carry out its "national mission."

The meaning of those general principles became clear when they were translated into specific terms.

A million strong army, Thorez pointed out, cannot exist without a large cadet of officers. Those officers who were misled into following Petain must therefore be readmitted into service and allowed to redeem their national honor. Stepping up of war production demands that Communists should "rule out the lazy."

Thorez's appeals sounded almost like a paraphrase of De Gaulle's earlier message to the French people.

Speech Is Welcomed

He declared that regular courts are the only authorities entitled to judge and inflict justice on the collaborators; that the Army and regular police are the only bodies entitled to carry arms; that Milices Patriotiques have played out their role; that the committees of liberation ought no longer overlap with the regular administrative organs or obstruct their functioning.

The French press, especially the center and right, welcomed Thorez's speech as showing political wisdom and statesmanship. Few politicians or journalists have had any illusions about the motive behind this radical reversal of the Communist policy.

As has so often happened before, the internal policies of the Communist Party are dominated by consideration of the foreign policy.

An analogous change of the policy took place almost 10 years ago when Laval returned from Moscow with the Russo-French alliance and the Communists in the Chamber of Deputies, for the first time in their parliamentary career, voted for defense in credits.

Whatever the motive of Thorez's recent statement, it certainly will not fail to influence the political outlook in France, though it, remains an open question as to how stable and permanent that influence is going to be.

Committees of liberation and Milices Patriotiques are for the most part certain to take their cue from the Secretary General of the Chamber of Deputies and their complete surrender to the Provisional government ought to make it much easier now for De Gaulle to place his government on a solid footing.

Cannot Allay Tension

Nevertheless, Thorez's magic wand cannot allay all natural tension and discontent. It must have been something of an unpleasant surprise for De Gaulle that, just after he received help from the Chamber of Deputies, his own followers of resistance days, grouped around the daily paper "Combat", and for the first time openly turned on him with their polemical guns; and criticism of "Combat" were soon echoed by the Socialist populaire.

"Combat" represents a special trend in De Gaullism. It pays to De Gaulle all the tribute which he has deserved; it also recognizes his moral authority. But it is increasingly critical of what it regards as a social conservatism of the Provisional government and of its lack of a definite policy.

That "Combat" isn't alone in its criticisms has been proved by last week's Congress of Movement De La Liberation Nationale (MLN) which adopted a very similar attitude.

One of the chief issues discussed at the Congress was the fusion proposal made by the other great body of resistance.

An overwhelming majority of MLN delegates turned down the proposal.

Communists are now extremely fusion-minded. They proposed a merger with the Socialist Party, with the Christian Trade Union as well as with the MLN.

Nearly the whole French press has replied to their proposals which hardly represent anything more serious than one of the seasonal CP "campaign for unity."

Offers and refusals to fuse have, however, yielded no reply to the question of future resistance movements.

National conferences of the MLN and of the front national have confidently declared that they will not be reduced to the status of ex-servicemen's organizations as after the last war and that they do not regard themselves as mere bodies of veterans having no say in France's political affairs.

But it is difficult to see in what way the resistance can really continue to play in the political role. Its branches were organized on a purely local basis and embraced people most divergent social and political outlook.

In this lay the strength of resistance in the years of underground struggle. But in this lies also its present weariness. Extreme diversity of its composition inevitably hampers it in working out its social and political programs.

Except for the Communists and even this is not certain—the pull of the prewar parties still seems to be relatively weak but the resistance has not proved capable of taking their place.

The result is tense in the political stalemate, silently presided over by De Gaulle.—"La Republique Du Silence."